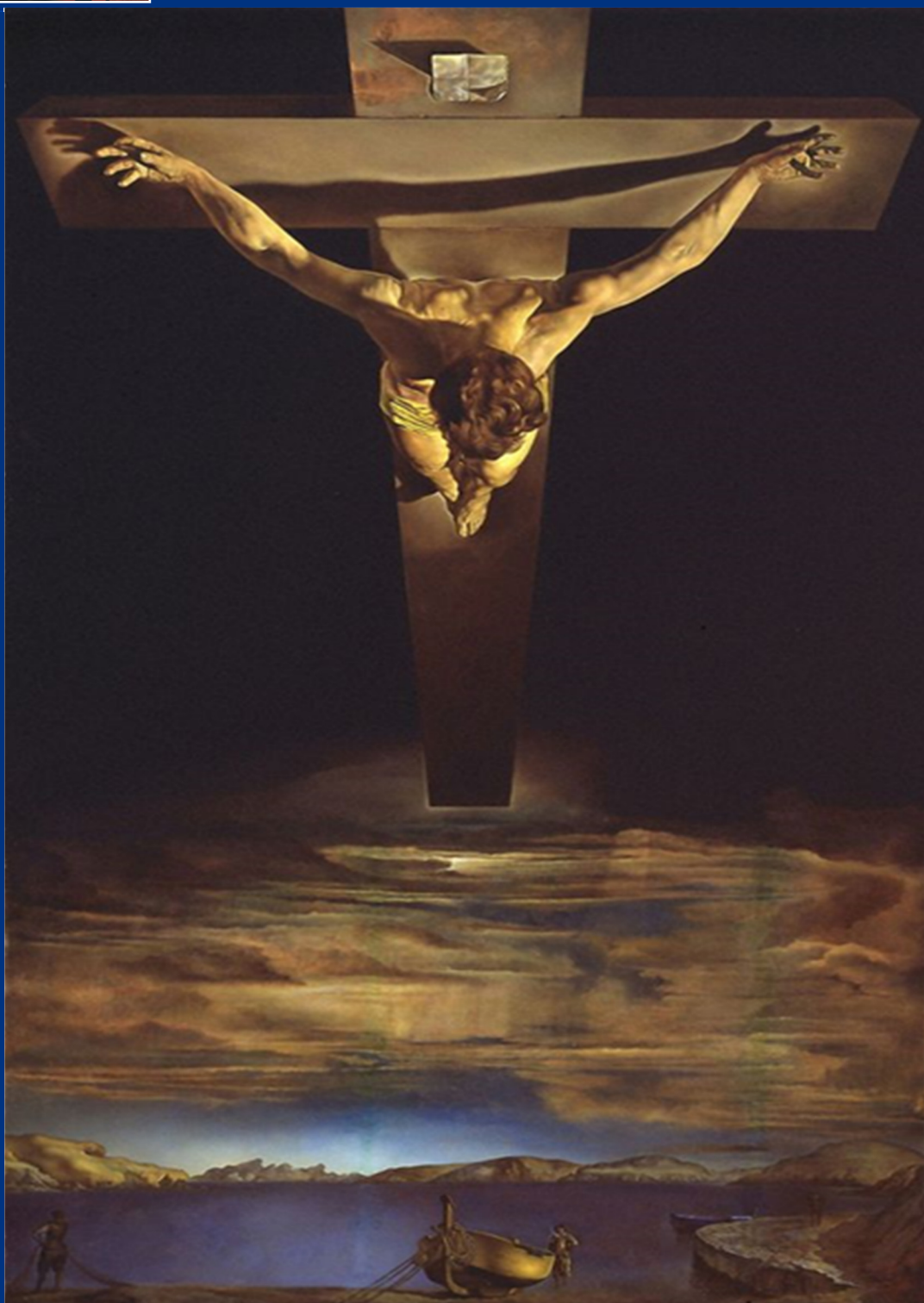




# ST. CATHARINE'S PARISH

*523 Western Highway  
Blauvelt, New York 10913*

*Rev. Msgr. Francis J. McAree, S.T.D.  
Pastor*





*+ Holy Week Schedule +*  
*Palm Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> to Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>*  
**Saint Catharine's Church**  
**Blauvelt, New York**

**PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY MASSES – MARCH 24**

Masses are Saturday Evening at 5:00 PM, Sunday at 8 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM,  
12:30 PM and 4:30 PM

**MONDAY, MARCH 25 – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27**

Masses at 6:45 AM and 8:30 AM

**LENTEN RECONCILIATION MONDAY – MARCH 25**

Confessions from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

**HOLY THURSDAY – MARCH 28**

Mass of Convenience at 9:00 AM (*For those unable to attend the Evening Mass*)

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30 PM

Veneration of the Blessed Sacrament

Decorated Repository (One Hour)

**GOOD FRIDAY – MARCH 29**

Morning Prayer of the Church (*Tenebrae Service*) at 10:00 AM

Solemn Commemoration of the Passion and Death of Our Lord, 3:00 PM

*Reading of the Passion – Veneration of the Cross – Reception of Holy Communion*

(During the Veneration of the Cross, we ask that no physical contact with the Cross take place; Parishioners are being asked to venerate with a bow or genuflection only.)

Stations of the Cross, 7:30 PM

**HOLY SATURDAY – MARCH 30**

Morning Prayer of the Church (*Tenebrae Service*) at 10:00 AM

The Great Easter Vigil Mass, 8:00 PM

**EASTER SUNDAY – MARCH 31**

Easter Sunday Masses are at 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM, and 12:30 PM

(We do not have a 4:30 PM Mass on Easter Sunday)

**PALM SUNDAY  
OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

**THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST'S LOVE**

From the proclamation of the Gospel at the beginning of the Liturgy, we know that today is different, not only because we hear two Gospel passages, or because we hold palms and move in procession.

Today begins Holy Week, a time set apart, a week in which to listen, pray, reflect, and take to heart the truth of Christ's passion, crucifixion, death, and ultimately, resurrection.

It takes a week, and a lifetime, to truly hear the message of Christ's love. It is difficult for us to comprehend that Jesus willingly sacrificed Himself, so we must hear the story again and again.

Let this week be for us a new moment of faith in which we, together with the criminal who was crucified with Christ, cry out,

*"Jesus,  
remember me  
when You come into Your Kingdom."*

**TODAY'S READINGS**

**Gospel at the Procession with Palms**

Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16).

**First Reading**

In spite of my sufferings I am not disgraced. I am not put to shame (Isaiah 50:4-7).

**Psalm**

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Psalm 22).

**Second Reading**

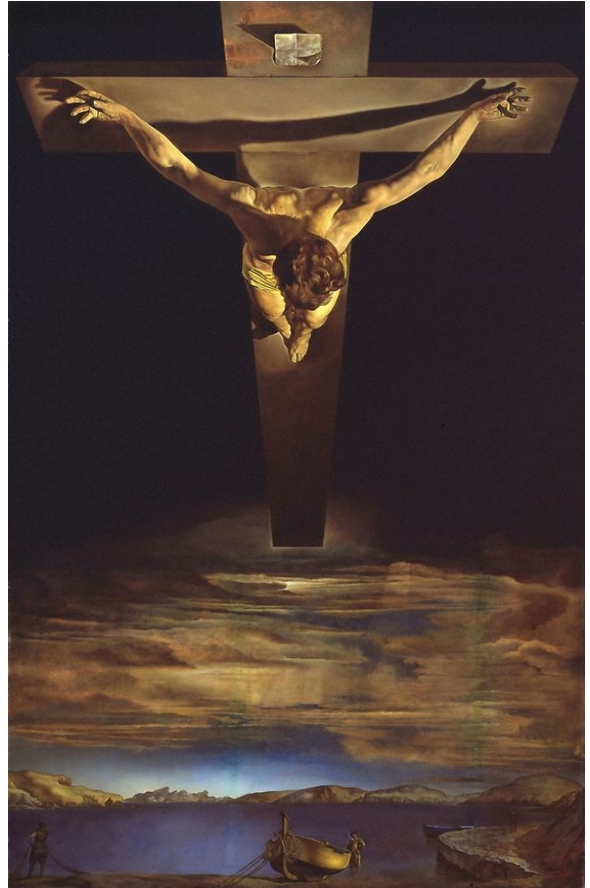
Christ emptied himself, and God filled this emptiness with exaltation (Philippians 2:6-11).

**Gospel**

The account of Christ's passion according to Mark (Mark 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]).

**PETITION OF THE WEEK**

*Give us the grace and courage to follow You this Holy Week from death to resurrection, from darkness to the fullness of light ... Lord, hear our prayer.*



**OUR COVER ARTWORK  
THE CHRIST OF ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS  
SALVADOR DALÍ, 1951**

The 16<sup>th</sup> Century Spanish mystic, St. John of the Cross, had a vision that he translated onto paper. He had drawn the Crucifixion from an unusual angle and when Salvador Dalí, a Spanish surrealist artist saw this drawing, he was inspired. *The Christ of St. John of the Cross* is the result.

The painting shows Jesus Christ on the Cross in a darkened sky floating over a body of water, complete with a boat and fishermen.

Although it is a depiction of the Crucifixion, it is devoid of nails, blood, and a crown of thorns, because Dalí meant to show that Jesus was a *willing* sacrifice.

We have seen many pictures of the Crucifixion, but never one from this point of view.

Others are from the point of view of the worshipper, but Dalí's is unique. He has rendered *his* Crucifixion from the point of view of God!

It's as if God is looking down at His beloved Son, after His mission here had been accomplished ...

*"He died so that we might live."*

# dear Padre

## What is the Meaning and Symbolism of Palm?

We use palm to commemorate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. *"The great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him."* (Jn 12:12-13).

In biblical times, people saw the palm tree as a "kingly" tree because of its lofty height and majestic appearance. Palm trees have slender, graceful trunks that rise high in the air, their tops crowned with green branches. It is easy to understand why the palm tree became a sign and symbol of royalty and victory.

The Jews carried palm branches in their processions on festive holy days. Roman soldiers carried palm branches in their victory parades in Rome. Thus, when people greeted Jesus with branches of palm upon His entrance into Jerusalem, they were greeting Him in the spirit of joy and triumph that they usually showered on victorious kings and armies.

Palms signify a joyful victory, but not a victory in the worldly and military sense of the word. It is a victory that we can understand and celebrate only in the light of the other events of this coming Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

The ultimate victory of Jesus was His Easter triumph over death and sin. But, it was a victory won only through suffering and dying. This is the victory we begin to recall on Palm Sunday. Even though we must relive the sad events of Holy Thursday and Good Friday, we know the triumphant outcome of the story. And, knowing the outcome enables us to make Palm Sunday the beginning of a victory celebration, and the palms are a sign of the Easter victory.

As Catholics, our custom is to take the palm branches home and display them throughout the year. When we do this, we remind ourselves that we share in the victory of Jesus over death and sin.

Through His own suffering, dying and rising, Jesus has called us to live in great hope. On Palm Sunday, let the palm branches symbolize that great hope, a sign of the great triumph that Jesus made possible for each and every one of us.



## TASC PALM CROSS FUNDRAISER

**THIS WEEKEND, MARCH 23-24**

Members of TASC (St. Catharine's Teen Association) will be selling Palm Crosses at all of our Masses this weekend. A suggested donation is \$1.

## TENEBRAE

### MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Tenebrae* is from the Latin word meaning, "shadows" and is used as the name of this para-liturgical service because the sequence, or order, is accompanied by ever deepening shadows. The sanctuary is brilliantly lit at the beginning of *Tenebrae* and the lights are dimmed as it continues, until at the end, there is total darkness except for a single candle on the Altar. Those attending this modified Passion Play service are asked to leave in complete silence.

At St. Catharine's, we have two *Tenebrae* services; on Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM, and on Holy Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM. Please consider joining us this year.

## HOLY SATURDAY

In some countries, Holy Saturday is called Silent Saturday. We are after the Crucifixion and await the Resurrection. There seems to be no movement, no hope, everything is quiet. But, in this silence, God is present and at work.

This is the day between the horrendous death of Christ, and the raising of His body.

The day between the struggle and the solution.

The day between despair and hope.

The day between the question and the answer.

The day between death and life.

The day between our prayers and our prayers being answered.

The day between the shouts of torture and the shouts of joy.

This is the day we do what Jesus did ... lie still ... stay silent and trust in God.

## THE EASTER VIGIL

As we walk along this beautiful journey of Lent, we have been preparing ourselves to celebrate the mysteries of our baptism and our resurrection.

Easter will be the culmination of this season, and will give us the possibility to experience *Heaven on Earth*, especially during the celebration of the Easter Vigil.

The Easter Vigil is not just a *"nighttime longer Mass,"* with additional rites and readings which make the celebration more engaging and meaningful.

The Easter Vigil is, rather, a unique encounter with the Risen Christ, by which the mystery of our life here on Earth, of our cross and death, as well as, our eternal life in Heaven, receives its true light because it is united to the death and Resurrection of the Lord.

During the Easter Vigil, after hearing the Word of God that describes the history of our salvation, we renew our baptismal promises as a sign of our adherence to our common call to holiness, and then we celebrate the passing to new life in Christ through the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

It is a beautiful, meaningful, and solemn celebration; a passing from darkness into light, from death to life.

**A LOVELY THOUGHT ...**

Veronica wiped the brow of Jesus as He was carrying His cross to Golgotha, and His face remained imprinted on her cloth. Our faces will be imprinted on the hearts of those who are kind to us, like a blessing.

That's all it takes – a moment of kindness. Someone who is kind and understanding, who seems to be sent there like an angel on the road to get you through.

A Veronica.

*If you can be anything,  
be kind.*

**EASTER HAM & GIFT CARD COLLECTION  
THIS PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND, MARCH 23-24**

Please consider donating a ham and other food items to **this weekend's** Easter Ham & Gift Card Drive. Whatever we collect will be given to families in need right here in our own Parish, the Neighborhood Food Pantry, and Catholic Community Services in Haverstraw.

We are also asking for gift cards – they may be to a local supermarket, restaurant, or delivery service. Money donations are also welcome – they may be cash, check (made payable to *St. Catharine's Food Drive*), or Visa, Mastercard gift cards. Please place your gift cards in the collection basket at any of our weekend Masses.

May God bless you for your generosity.

**PARISH EASTER BASKETS**

Please contact Msgr. McAree if you are aware of any local families who may be in need of one of our Parish Easter Baskets which will contain a ham and other food items. The baskets are made available through the goodness and kindness of our own parishioners and the Easter Ham and Food Drive this Palm Sunday weekend.

**Please send Msgr. McAree a note or phone him at (845) 359-0542.** All inquiries and gift distributions will remain strictly confidential.


**EASTER SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 31<sup>st</sup>  
OUR ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT**

This family-friendly event will be held on Easter Sunday morning, following the 9:30 AM Family Mass on the grounds of St. Catharine's Church.

Please join us for this wonderful Easter tradition!

*The Tabernacle Candle will burn before the  
Blessed Sacrament the week of March 24  
In Loving Memory of  
Thomas Quilter*



*From  
The Moriarty Family*

*"For everything there is a season  
and a time for every purpose under Heaven."*

*"A time to heal"*

We pray for God's tender mercy and loving kindness upon all of our loved ones who have experienced serious health issues. We also pray for all those who assist and care for the sick that God may continue to give them patience, compassion, strength, and courage.

*Walter Cahill, Helen O'Brien, Matthew Mencher,  
Lucy Decilla, Rory Tinston, Gary Baisley, Geraldine Moloney,  
Jim Grimm, Brandon Hernandez, Billy Keenan, Diana Colon,  
Colleen Kusy, Amanda Lynch, Brian Domitrovits, II,  
Christian Perez, Nicholas Guiliano, Matilda Quinn,  
Nicholas Corbi, Liam Frawley, Noreen Larsen, Molly McGovern,  
Danny Newkirk, Cali Jhené Pritchard, Emmet Horvath,  
Darianna DeLise, David O'Hanlon, James Cunningham,  
Liam McLaughlin, Tom Collins, Rob Incognoli, Rose Cahill,  
Teresita Dural, Keira Cunningham, Gary Haley,  
Heather Mekkinosson, Jude DePalma, Gerald Spagnolo,  
Gabriella Larsen, Anne Marie Herman, Patricia Duffy,  
Justin Duffy, Fiona Moran, Carol Crane, Carol McGrath,  
Lisa Morehead, Vincent Fyfe, June Hudson, Colton Martin,  
Ed Walsh, Jacqueline Tracey, Christopher O'Brien,  
Andrew Padilla, Paulette Maurice, Jack Bermingham,  
Margaret Brosnan, Jim Deremeik, Sr. Maureen Bradshaw,  
Peggy Finn, Ann Donohue, Heather Hovorka Plunkett,  
Edward Fitzpatrick, James Racca, Dr. Jose and Celia Botet,  
Mary Jane Knapp, Corona Balin, Judy Donohue, Frank Parisi,  
Colleen Scarry, Marion O'Leary, Judith Ferrara,  
Patrick Armstrong, Patty Neier, Anna Stellweg, Janet Kopac,  
Marjorie Tobin, Michael McManamon, Joan Armus,  
Kevin Kearney, Neil McDermott, Brigid Kivlehan,  
Edward Monks*

*"A time to mourn"*

*Well done, good and faithful servant.*

*Come and share your Master's joy.*

*Andrew Duggan, Jr., Hannah Duggan, Rosemarie Higgins,  
Brian Duffy, Farida Brillantes, Philip Benincasa, Sr.,  
Sister Michaela Connolly, O.P., Fernando Pangilinan, Jr.,  
Charles "Chuck" Malanaphy*

*"A time for war and a time for peace"*

O Prince of Peace, we humbly ask your protection for all our men and women in military service. Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Be their rock, their shield, and their stronghold and let them draw their strength from You. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need, and bring them home safely. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord and Savior. *Amen.*

**ST. CATHARINE'S BULLETIN BOARD****+LENTEN RECONCILIATION MONDAY+  
THIS MONDAY, MARCH 25<sup>th</sup>, 4-7 PM**

From 4–7 PM, we will have a Parish Priest available in our Church for anyone who would like to stop by for confession.

The Lenten season gives us a wonderful opportunity to remind ourselves that the Sacrament of Penance is the best way to prepare for the joy of the Resurrection of Our Savior, Jesus Christ. Please make the Sacrament of Reconciliation a special part of your Lenten observance.

**THE 2024 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL  
STEWARDSHIP APPEAL**

This year, our goal, set by the Archdiocese is \$153,600. At this time, we have pledges in the amount of \$45,845. We are asking every family to participate and make a *sacrificial* pledge to the *2024 Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal*. The success – helping those less fortunate, spiritually nurturing our youth, caring for our retired priests and religious, growing the many ministry programs that serve our communities – depends on us.

Please join your fellow parishioners, prayerfully consider your contribution, and make your gift to the *Cardinal's Appeal* today. Remember, you can pledge your gift now, and make payments in the coming months. You may also choose to make your donation online at [www.cardinalsappeal.org](http://www.cardinalsappeal.org).

To all who have already made your commitment, we truly thank you.

**ANNUAL BOOSTER CLUB**

Tickets cost \$100 each and only 300 tickets will be sold. The Grand Prize is \$8,000. The Drawing and Reception will take place in the Gym on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, following the 12:30 PM Mass.

To purchase tickets, you may contact our Booster Club Chairwoman, Judy Scandiffio at (845) 359-1023.

**GOLDEN WEDDING JUBILEE MASS  
AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL  
SUNDAY, JUNE 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2:30 PM**

Couples celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary at any time during 2024 are cordially invited to attend the *Annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass* at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in New York, Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:30 PM. His Eminence, Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan will be the Celebrant.

Please contact St. Catharine's Rectory at (845) 359-0542 to register. Registration will close May 13<sup>th</sup>.

**YOUR EASTER GIFT TO OUR PARISH**

Your Easter contribution to St. Catharine's should be something which truly reflects your love of God and our Parish. Special Easter envelopes may be found on the Ushers tables in the lobby of the Church.

Thank you and may God bless you and your loved ones with a truly Blessed Easter.

**TODAY'S SECOND COLLECTION**

**Today's** Second Collection will help offset our Archdiocesan assessment for the Catholic School System in New York. Thank you for your continued support.

**GOOD FRIDAY  
HOLY LAND COLLECTION**

Christians around the world are united in a special way during Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. Our hearts, minds and prayers are also especially aware of the Holy Land.

On Good Friday, we are called upon to support Christians in the Holy Land, many of whom depend on this collection for their lives. Franciscans and others in the Holy Land are housing and feeding the poor, providing religious formation and education, maintaining shrines and parishes, and conducting pastoral ministry.

God bless you for your generosity.

**MASS INTENTIONS****SATURDAY, MARCH 23**

5:00 Pat Haughey

**SUNDAY, MARCH 24 – PALM SUNDAY**

8:00 Sixta Lamartino

9:30 Charlotte & Daniel Ross & Philomena Grand

11:00 Thomas Quilter

12:30 John Long

4:30 Kayla Fitzpatrick

**MONDAY, MARCH 25**

6:45 June Philbin – *First Year Anniversary*

8:30 Lennon and Costello Families

**TUESDAY, MARCH 26**

6:45 Pops Bentley

8:30 Rogelio S. Villanueva

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27**

6:45 Joanne Molloy

8:30 John Langan – *4 Year Anniversary*

**+ HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 28+**

9:00AM Morning Mass of Convenience

7:30PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

**+GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29+**

10AM Tenebrae (Morning Prayer of the Church)

3PM Solemn Service (Passion, Veneration, and Holy Communion)

7:30PM Stations of the Cross

**+HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 30+**

10AM Tenebrae (Morning Prayer of the Church)

8PM Easter Vigil Mass

**+EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31 +**

8:00

9:30 *Blessed Easter Wishes*

11:00

12:30