The Weekly: Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and more!

April 3rd 2020

HOLY WEEK

The services of Holy Week, spanning the time from Palm Sunday to Easter Day, are actually the individual parts of a single great liturgical act in which we remember and celebrate the sacrificial death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The formal title for this foundational event of the Christian faith is the Paschal Mystery. Just as the ancient Passover (Pesach in Hebrew, Pasch in Latin) commemorates the deliverance of Israel from slavery, and the Covenant established between God and the chosen People of Israel, the Passover of God’s New Covenant celebrates the deliverance of all humankind from the power of sin and death, and the gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus.

Very early in its existence, the Church realized that this cosmic event could not possibly be comprehended in one sitting, so to speak. Thus arose the liturgical observance known as the Triduum (“TRID-you-oom,” Latin for “three days”), comprising the arrest, trial, execution and burial of Jesus, and his resurrection (as the Gospels proclaim) “on the third day.” The services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Great Vigil of Easter (together with the preceding
Sunday of the Passion) each focus on a particular aspect of the Paschal Mystery. None is complete in itself.

Most of us would agree that to see only a single act of a play, or read only the last chapter of a novel, is to diminish the understanding and impact of the whole. Similarly, it is only by entering into the totality of the Church’s commemoration of the Paschal Mystery that its meaning can be richly and fully experienced.

Immanuel will continue with Virtual Eucharist services through Holy Week and Easter, we hope you will continue to join us! Services will be online on our website and Facebook page at the following times:

**Palm Sunday, April 5** – 11:30am
**Maundy Thursday, April 9** – 7pm
**Good Friday, April 10** – 7pm
**Easter Sunday, April 12** – 11:30am

Compline will be held over Zoom on Sunday at 7pm.

In lieu of bulletins and inserts, **Easter Memorials and Thank Offerings** can be made through our online giving system [here](#), or by mailing the attached form to the office at 100 Harmony Street, New Castle, DE 19720.

**LITURGY AND MUSIC NOTES**

**THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY**

This day begins with the Blessing of Palms, recalling Jesus’s triumphal entrance into Jerusalem. This is not just the recounting of an event long past, but the Church’s proclamation of Jesus’ Kingship today. **Hymn 154** (click the hymn numbers for recordings from Immanuel), “All glory, laud, and honor,” has been sung as part of the palms procession (in many different versions) since the 9th century. Sunday’s Liturgy will begin with an exuberant setting for organ by J. S. Bach of this joyous tune, in which the melody appears in very long, low pedal tones.

The Liturgy then shifts abruptly to the main focus of the day, the passion (suffering) of Christ. This is the only Sunday of the year that the Passion, the Gospel account of our Lord’s suffering and death, is read. The juxtaposition of the joyful palms procession and the solemn intensity of the Passion reading may seem jarring; but this is intentional, and generates a range of conflicting emotions that will be re-experienced in the course of the week. This juxtaposition is eloquently captured in **Hymn 156**:

Ride on! ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin
O’er captive Death and conquered Sin.

For many, the quintessential hymn of Holy Week is **Hymn 168**, “O sacred head, sore wounded” (also known as the Passion Chorale), which expresses a deeply personal identification with the Lord’s Passion. Sunday’s Liturgy will conclude with 17th century German organist Dieterich Buxtehude’s version of this famous hymn, a setting reminiscent (in a way) of a jazz musician creating a freely improvised transformation of a melody to reveal its emotional content.
Virtual Compline

Sadly, the compline link was faulty last week. As so many of you were trying to connect, there was a competing meeting going on which blocked you from logging in. Rest assured, that other meeting was also compline—it just wasn’t shareable and I apologize for the error. Please try again this Sunday evening, logging in a few minutes before 7 p.m. The conflicting meeting has been deleted and you should be able to log in by clicking on the link below. I have attached the compline bulletin so that you can participate fully in the service. Unmute yourself in order to say the responses, psalm, and prayers.

- Jo Harney

Immanuel on the Green Compline
Meeting ID: 606 343 0905

OR dial in using one of these numbers:

929 436 2866 US
253 215 8782 US
301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: 606 343 0905

Here are a few resources you might find helpful:
- Bishop Brown will celebrate a weekly Mass in the St. Albans Center, which will be livestreamed at 11 am every Sunday on the Diocesan Facebook page.
- State of Delaware
- Episcopal Relief & Development – Faith-Based Response to Epidemics
- CDC Information on Coronavirus
- Washington State Department of Health on Coronavirus
- Washington Post – How to Prepare for the Coronavirus in the US
- CDC Pandemic Guidelines

PARISH HAPPENINGS

The office will be functioning remotely during the week, please email immanuelonthegreen@comcast.net with any needs.

Available Flower Memorial Dates

Memorials can be a Sunday closest to a set date (such as a birthday, anniversary, or passing), or a specific Sunday in the month (such as the 1st Sunday in October), and can be recurring or one time happenings. Please contact the office on (302)328-2413, or Mark on (302)654-2562 or at mbac56@aol.com, if you would like to talk about an offering.

These Sundays are available for dedicated flower offerings:

2020
- April 19
- May 3
- May 31
- June 21
- June 28
- August 13

April Birthdays
- Week 1 - Todd Whitaker, Hannah Marie Robelen
- Week 2 - Jeannette Burnam, Deborah Chance, Madeline Nash Wilson, David Henshaw
- Week 3 - Joseph Robert Costango, Matthew Walker
- Week 4 - Charles Botwright, Phoebe Timmins, Thomas William Costango
- Week 5 - Julian Lawrence Garrison

April Anniversaries
- Week 2 - Jim and Linda Butler, Lauren and Jimmy Hopper
- Week 3 - Mark and Valarie Leary
STAY CONNECTED

The FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out) struggle is real. If you haven't already, be sure to follow us on Twitter and Instagram, for memes like this one from Caitlin Irwin:

Stay up to date on all the latest happenings by visiting our website.

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