



**LIFE (Learning In Faith Experiences)**

Today as we begin our Holy Week journey we celebrate Jesus' passion: we remember his life, suffering, death and resurrection. What better word is there than PASSION that could best describe how Jesus felt (and feels) toward us? The embodiment of his passionate love for us was shown by how he lived, suffered, died, and rose for each and every one of us so that we may ultimately share in his glory. Scripture tells us that *there is no greater love than to lay down your life for your friend, and Jesus called us his friends*. How do we remember and celebrate Jesus' impassioned love for us during these days which we call holy? Perhaps one of the best ways to remember Jesus' love for you and me might be to spend this Holy Week in *retreat mode*. Each one of us, surely, can say "I can't get away and am too busy to retreat." Yes, we still have work, family, and a multitude of commitments that must be kept; but perhaps all these things can be done this week with a special focus on Jesus? By *retreating*, I'm suggesting that you attempt to pull back from the regular action of every day by facing it with a more prayerful attitude as you walk through holy week. *Retreat* from your day-to-day ways by being more mindful of how the Spirit works in and through you. Perhaps you could consider spending time *retreating* from the noise and hectic goings-on, as best you can, to spend time in reflection, quiet and prayer. *Retreat* by walking with Jesus and being deliberate in the way you live your life during this week called Holy. Re-arrange your schedule to *retreat* by fully participating in all of our Church's Triduum celebrations. By doing these things, you may more fully enter into the most holy journey that we Catholics celebrate in our Church Year. How will you *retreat* with Jesus?

Written by: Colette Savaria, LIFE Coordinator

The next class for First Communion students is on Thurs., 4/5 from 3:30-4:45pm. Bring text book. **REMINDER for grades K-3 LIFE children** to work on your "Holy Week-in-a-box" activity with your parent© during this special week!

**The Stations of the Cross** represent events from Jesus' passion and death. At each station we use our senses and imagination to reflect prayerfully upon Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection. Our Confirmation II students will lead the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at 3pm which is remembered as the hour of our Lord's death on the cross. Please make the time to be present – to be still, to be quiet, to pray and be with Jesus as He makes this journey from death to life. **Rehearsal for the Stations of the Cross for Confirmation students will take place on Sunday, March 25 from 6 to 7pm in the Church.**

**CHURCH SUPPORT - March 17/18 2018**  
 Weekly Collection \$5396.00  
 Envelopes for your Easter Donation, Second Collection are available in the pews. *Thank you for your continuing generosity.*

**St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP)**

Today is **Palm Sunday** and the beginning of the holiest of Christian weeks. Let us pray for the grace to take up our own cross and to follow Jesus through death to new life. Your almsgiving in the new St. Vincent de Paul offering box (mounted on the column beside the new banner in the narthex) will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter. Thank you for your generosity.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Jn 12:1-11  
 Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38  
 Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Mt 26:14-25  
 Thursday: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/ I Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15  
 Friday: Is 52:13-53:12/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/  
 Jn 18:1-19:42  
 Saturday: Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ex 14:15-15:1/  
 Is 54:5-14/Is 55:1-11/ Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4/  
 Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Rom 6:3-11/Mk 16:1-7  
 Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4/Jn 20:1-9

**The Annual Catholic Charity Appeal** continues!! For your convenience, pledge envelopes are still available in the vestibule of the Church. Thank you for your support!!

**Community Action Committee (CAC) –**

**Ten boxes/bags of Christmas and All Occasion** cards were collected for delivery to the ACI and RI Training School. **The Bath Towel and Twin Sheet Drive for McKinney Shelter** ends this Sunday, March 25. Please place these items in the blue bin in the narthex of the Church. *Thank you for all your donations!*

**Easter Flowers** will be accepted in the Parish Connector on Friday, March 30. Special envelopes for flower donations are located in the pews. If you would like a loved one remembered during the Easter season through your donation, please be sure to include those names(s) on your envelope or plant. **Decorating the Church will take place on Saturday, March 31 at 10am. Volunteers to help will be greatly appreciated.**

**David the King:** This 6-part/2-hour DVD presentation by Bishop Robert Barron will be shown in the Parish Center on March 26 from 6:30-8:30pm.

Please *pray* for all the men and women who have served and who currently serve in the armed forces, and the military commanders who lead them. *Pray* for our homebound Parishioners and the sick of the Parish (including those in hospitals and nursing homes). *Pray* for the unborn, the premature, and the fragile among us so that we may deepen our respect for life at all stages.

As we pass the light of the new fire from candle to candle at the great **Easter Vigil** next Saturday, we can't help but be reminded that we are also passing on the flame of faith. At this liturgy we welcome Christopher Vanloenen and Christina Bernardi who will enter the Catholic faith with the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation, as well as Marguerite Thorpe who will complete her Christian initiation with Confirmation. All of St. Lucy's Parish family have participated in their journey of faith through prayer, support, and example. Accordingly, you can all rejoice with them at the Easter Vigil as you witness their reception of these Sacraments, renew your own Baptismal promises, and rejoice as they join us for the first time as fully initiated members of the Catholic faith. Knowing that the flame of faith burns brightly, each of us can soon celebrate that great Easter proclamation: **Christ is risen...Alleluia!**

**After the Easter Vigil next Saturday, there will be a reception** for the newest members of St. Lucy's family. All are welcome to attend. If you would like to contribute a food item such as an appetizer, cheese and crackers, finger sandwiches, chip and dip, etc. please drop it off at the Parish Center between 10 and noon on Saturday or before the Vigil. *Thanks for your help and support!*

**LENTEN ACTIVITIES**

**\*\*Formed: Catholic Faith on Demand:** Use the parish code B84KHM to register at formed.org to view available resources.  
**\*\*Operation Rice Bowl sacrificial offerings** may now be returned and are then sent to Catholic Relief Services.



**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2018**

**Holy Thursday, March 29**  
 Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7pm

**Good Friday, March 30**  
 Stations of the Cross, 3pm  
 Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 7pm

**Holy Saturday, March 31**  
 Confessions, 4 to 5pm (no 5pm Mass)  
 Celebration of the Easter Vigil, 7:30pm

**Easter Sunday, April 1**  
 Masses at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00am  
 (No evening Mass)

**MASS INTENTIONS AND CHURCH SCHEDULE**

Saturday, March 24  
 5:00pm (O) Thomas Hastings  
 (Anniversary Remembrance)  
 Sunday, March 25, **Palm Sunday**  
 8:00am (O'N) Eileen McCarthy  
 10:30am (O) Faithful Departed of  
 St. Columba Cemetery  
 5:00pm (O) Alba Tucci Munn (20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)  
 Monday, March 26  
 9:00am Frank P. "Mickey" Mello  
 Tuesday, March 27  
 9:00am In memory of Vincent F. McMahon, Sr.  
 and family  
 Wednesday, March 28  
 9:00am Lisa Silvia (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary)  
 Thursday, March 29, **Holy Thursday**  
 7:00pm St. Lucy's Parishioners  
 Friday, March 30, **Good Friday**  
 3:00pm Stations of the Cross  
 7:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
 Saturday, March 31, **Holy Saturday**  
 4:00-5:00pm Confessions  
 7:30pm (O) Celebration of the Easter Vigil  
 St. Lucy's Parishioners  
 Sunday, April 1, **Easter Sunday**  
 8:00am (O) St. Lucy's Parishioners  
 9:30am (O) St. Lucy's Parishioners  
 11:00am (O) Ettore "Ed" Deascendis  
 (Birthday Remembrance)  
 Angelo and Julia DiMattia (Anniversary)  
 Elvira S. DiMattia

**No PM Mass**

In the above celebrations:

- O = Rev. John O'Brien
- O'N = Rev. Thomas O'Neill
- S = Rev. Saji Joseph

**Children's Homilies** will take place during the 10:30am Mass this Sunday, March 25.

**Visiting the Sick:** Please notify Sr. Sheila at 847-6153 (x205) when a family member is in the hospital.